2017 Annual Town Meeting

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Segment A: Segment B:

Belmont High School 7 pm, begins May 1, 2017 Belmont High School 7 pm, begins June 5, 2017



TOWN OF BELMONT WARRANT FOR 2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 1, 2017 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss.

To either of the Constables in said County:

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Belmont, qualified as the law requires to vote in elections and Town Affairs, to meet at the Belmont High School Auditorium on MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017, at 7:00 P.M., and to notify and warn the Town Meeting Members to meet and act at said time and place on the following Articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1: REPORTS

To hear the report of the Selectmen and other Town Officers, any Committee heretofore appointed and to act thereon.

This article accepts the reports of Town departments appearing in the Annual Town Report and allows the Board of Selectmen and other Town officers, boards and committees to report orally to the Town Meeting on appropriate matters not otherwise appearing on the Warrant. This article stays "on the table" throughout the Town Meeting to allow Town officials and committees to report at the call of the Moderator.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 2:

AUTHORIZATION TO REPRESENT THE TOWN'S LEGAL INTERESTS

To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to bring and defend actions for and against the Town, to submit any such claims to arbitration and to enter into settlement on account of the same in behalf of the Town, as and when they deem it for the best interest of the Town to do so, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article that authorizes the Board of Selectmen to represent the Town's legal interests and to settle legal claims.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 3:

ADOPT MGL c. 90 § 17C - SPEED LIMITS

To see if the Town will vote to adopt Chapter 90, section 17C of the Massachusetts General Laws, providing for a uniform speed limit of 25 miles per hour on those streets determined to be thickly settled, or take any action relative thereto.

This is a new provision under the Municipal Modernization Act giving the town the authority to reduce the uniform speed limit on all public ways within a thickly settled area or business district, except in those areas where special speed limits have been established, from 30 to 25 mph. Signs would be installed at town borders notifying motorist that the speed limit is 25 MPH unless otherwise posted. Advantages would be that speed limits are presumed to be 25 MPH unless otherwise posted and a reduction in number of signs. The town would still have to seek MassDOT approval for any changes in previously approved posted speed signs.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 4:

AMENDMENTS TO THE DEMOLITION DELAY GENERAL BYLAW (§60-320)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by deleting Section 60-320 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

- A. Intent and purpose. This Section is adopted for the purpose of preserving and protecting Significant Buildings within the Town of Belmont that constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, economic, political, or social history of the Town; and to limit the detrimental effect of Demolition on the character of the Town. Through this Section, owners of Preferably Preserved Buildings are encouraged to seek out and consider alternative options that will preserve, rehabilitate or restore such Buildings; and residents of the Town are alerted to impending Demolitions of Significant Buildings. By preserving and protecting Significant Buildings, this Section promotes the public welfare by making the Town a more attractive and desirable place in which to live and work. To achieve these purposes, the Belmont Historic District Commission is authorized to advise the Inspector of Buildings with respect to Demolition Permit Applications.
- B. Time limitation. The provisions of this Section shall be null and void and of no force and effect on and after December 31, 2022.
- C. Definitions. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the following definitions:

APPLICANT

Any person or entity that files an Application for a Demolition Permit.

APPLICATION

An Application for a Demolition Permit.

BUILDING

A roofed Structure enclosing useful space.

COMMISSION

The Belmont Historic District Commission.

DEMOLISH

To engage in Demolition of a Building.

DEMOLITION

The removal or dismantling of a Building in whole or substantial part, with or without the intent to replace the construction so affected.

DEMOLITION PERMIT

The permit required by the Inspector of Buildings for Demolition of a Building.

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

The person authorized by law to issue Demolition Permits within the Town of Belmont.

LIST

A list of Buildings, entitled *Belmont's Significant Historic Buildings Subject to Demolition Delay Bylaw*, prepared by the Commission and filed with the Town Clerk, on March 30, 2017, as it may be modified pursuant to Subsection D.

PREFERABLY PRESERVED BUILDING

Any Significant Building that the Commission determines, following a public hearing, should be preserved or rehabilitated rather than Demolished.

SIGNIFICANT BUILDING

A Building that is listed on the List.

STRUCTURE

Anything constructed or erected, the use of which requires fixed location on the ground.

D. The List of Buildings.

- (1) Upon the effective date of the 2017 amendments to this Section, the Commission shall notify the owner of record of any Building identified on the List, of the owner's right to appeal to the Board of Selectmen within 60 days of such notice to have the Building removed from the List. The basis for this appeal shall be limited to a factual demonstration that the Building does not qualify to be a Significant Building, based upon the following considerations:
 - (a) Whether the Building is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to our history;
 - (b) Whether the Building is associated with the lives of persons historically significant in our past;

- (c) Whether the Building embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; represents the work of a master; possesses high artistic value; or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;
- (d) Whether the Building has recognized national, state, or local level historical significance;
- (e) The historic context of the Building; and,
- (f) The integrity of the Building.
- (2) Additional Buildings shall not be added to the List.
- (3) Buildings that are located within the McLean Hospital National Historic District, the Common Street Historic District, the Pleasant Street Historic District and the Richardson Farm Historic District, as well as the Belmont Center Fire Station and Waverley Square Fire Station and all municipal Buildings shall be ineligible for inclusion on the List.
- (4) The Demolition of a Significant Building following the issuance of a Demolition Permit shall automatically result in the removal of such Building from the List. Demolition Permits issued for Significant Buildings shall expire six months after their issuance, and a Significant Building that is not Demolished within such period shall remain on the List, and shall be subject to the review procedure set forth in Subsection F.
- E. Exclusions. Subsection F shall not apply to:
 - (1) The removal of a Building to another site within the Town of Belmont;
 - (2) Routine maintenance of a Building;
 - (3) Interior renovations of a Building;
 - (4) Removal, replacement, renovation, or construction of a Building's porches, entryways, entry platforms and accompanying roofs, decks, dormers, or other architectural elements;
 - (5) Removal or replacement of a Building's roofing materials, siding, railings, or windows; or
 - (6) Removal or destruction of a substantial addition to a Significant Building that, in the determination of the Commission, does not contribute to the historic character of the Building.
- F. Review Procedure.
 - (1) No Demolition Permit for a Significant Building shall be issued until the provisions of this Subsection have been satisfied.
 - (2) An Applicant proposing to Demolish a Significant Building shall file with the Inspector of Buildings an Application containing the following information:
 - (a) The address of the Building to be Demolished;

- (b) The owner's name, address, relevant contact information and telephone number;
- (c) A description of the Building; and
- (d) Photographs of the Building and of neighboring properties.
- If the Applicant is not the owner of the Building, the Application shall demonstrate the owner's assent to the filing of the Application.
- (3) The Inspector of Buildings shall, within seven days of receipt of such Application, forward a copy thereof to the Commission.
- (4) Within 35 days of receipt of a copy of the Application from the Inspector of Buildings, the Commission shall hold a public hearing to determine if it is in the public interest for a Significant Building to be preserved or rehabilitated rather than Demolished and, based on such determination, whether the Significant Building is a Preferably Preserved Building. Public notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be posted in the same manner as meeting notices posted in Belmont under the Open Meeting Law, MGL c.30A, §20, for a period of not less than seven days prior to the hearing date. The Inspector of Buildings, the Applicant and the owner of the Significant Building (if different from the Applicant) shall be notified in writing of the meeting time and place no less than 14 days prior to the hearing date.
- (5) Within 10 days of the first date of such public hearing, the Commission shall provide written notification to the Inspector of Buildings and the Applicant of its determination as to whether the Significant Building is a Preferably Preserved Building. If agreed to in writing by the Applicant, the determination of the Commission and notification to the Inspector of Buildings may be postponed to a specified date. If the Commission does not provide written notification to the Inspector of Buildings and the Applicant of its determination in writing by such deadline, then the Inspector of Buildings may issue the Demolition Permit.
- (6) If the Commission determines that the Significant Building is not a Preferably Preserved Building, the Commission shall so notify the Inspector of Buildings and Applicant in writing. The Inspector of Buildings may then issue the Demolition Permit.
- (7) If the Commission determines that the Significant Building is a Preferably Preserved Building, a Demolition Permit may thereafter be issued no sooner than 12 months after the date that the Application was filed with the Inspector of Buildings, unless a shorter time is otherwise authorized by the Commission based on its finding that the intent and purpose of this Section, as provided in Subsection A hereof, will be adequately served.
- G. Responsibility of Owners and Applicants.
 - (1) The owner of a Significant Building for which a Demolition Permit is being sought shall:
 - (a) Provide such information as is reasonably requested by the Commission in connection with its consideration of whether the Significant Building is a Preferably Preserved Building;
 - (b) Allow exterior access to the property on which the Significant Building is located, as reasonably requested by the Commission; and

- (c) Secure the Significant Building, if vacant, to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Buildings until a Demolition Permit is issued.
- (2) An Applicant who has applied for a Demolition Permit for a Preferably Preserved Building shall:
 - (a) Participate in the investigation of preservation options for the Preferably Preserved Building; and
 - (b) Reasonably cooperate with the Commission and any interested parties in seeking alternatives to the Demolition of the Preferably Preserved Building.
- (3) If the owner of a Significant Building fails to secure the Building to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Buildings, the subsequent destruction of the Building through any cause, shall be considered a voluntary Demolition in violation of this Section if such destruction could have been prevented by the required security measures.

H. Emergency Demolition.

- (1) Nothing in this Section shall restrict the Inspector of Buildings from ordering the immediate Demolition, in accordance with applicable law, of any Building in the event of imminent danger to the safety of the public. In the event that the Inspector of Buildings is informed that a Significant Building is dangerous to life or limb, or otherwise may be subject to a removal order, the Commission shall be notified and, where practicable, the Commission or its designee shall be allowed to accompany the Inspector of Buildings during the inspection of the Building.
- (2) As soon as practicable after the Inspector of Buildings has issued an emergency Demolition order for a Significant Building, a copy of such order shall be provided to the Commission, together with copies of all documentation relevant thereto.
- I. Administration, Enforcement and Remedies.
 - (1) The Commission may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to administer the provisions of this Section, but may not increase the length of the delay period stated herein.
 - (2) In computing any period of time prescribed in this Section, the day of the act, event, or default after which the designated period begins to run shall not be included. The last day of the period so computed shall be included, unless it is a Saturday, a Sunday or a legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of the next business day.
 - (3) The Commission and the Inspector of Buildings are each specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as either of them may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this Section or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.
 - (4) Any owner of a Significant Building that is Demolished without first obtaining a Demolition Permit in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall be subject to a penalty of \$300.00. Each day that such violation exists until a faithful restoration of the Demolished Significant Building or other remediation or remediation plan has been approved by the

Commission shall constitute a separate offense. The Inspector of Buildings may enforce this Section by non-criminal disposition as provided in MGL c.40, §21D.

(5) If a Significant Building is voluntarily Demolished without first obtaining a Demolition Permit in accordance with the provisions of this Section, no building permit authorizing construction on the lot on which the Building was located or on any adjoining lot under common ownership therewith shall be issued for a period of two years from the date of the Demolition, unless agreed to by the Commission.

Submitted by the Historic District Commission

The Board of Selectmen, Bylaw Review Committee, and Planning Board will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 5:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SIGN ZONING BY-LAW (§5.2)

- A. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 1.4, Definitions and Abbreviations, in the definition for 'Sign' by deleting from sub section c) the phrase 'covering not more than 50% of window area', as follows:
 - c) temporary signs inside display windows, covering not more than 50% of window area, illuminated by building illumination only;
- B. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 1.4, Definitions and Abbreviations, in the definition for 'Sign, Temporary' by deleting '100' and replacing it with '60' and inserting the phrase 'and not repeated for a period of 4 months after removal' at the end of the definition, as follows:
 - **Sign, Temporary** Any sign, including its supporting structure, intended to be maintained for a continuous period of not more than 400 60 days in any calendar year, and not repeated for a period of 4 months after removal.
- C. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.2, Signs, by deleting those words and phrases that are strike through and inserting those words and phrases underlined and renumbering the Section accordingly:

Section 5.2 Signs

5.2.1 Intent and Purpose

It is recognized that signs perform important functions in the community which and are essential for the public safety and general welfare, such as communicating messages, providing information about goods and services available, and providing orientation. It is further recognized that because of their potential detrimental impact on the visual and perceptual environment, signs must be regulated in order to:

a) prevent hazards to vehicular and pedestrian traffic;

- b) prevent conditions which have a blighting influence and contribute to declining property values;
- c) provide for easy recognition and legibility of all permitted signs and other uses in the immediate vicinity;
- d) preserve the amenities and visual quality of the Town and curb the deterioration of the community environment; and
- e) conserve energy.

It is the intent of this Section 5.2 to protect property values, create a more attractive business climate, enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, provide a more enjoyable and pleasing community and to encourage the most appropriates uses of land.

5.2.2 Permits

No sign (other than a temporary sign in a window <u>or a sign pursuant to Section 5.2.5 a) 1.</u> shall be erected, altered or enlarged in a General or Local Business District until a permit has been issued by the Building Inspector, to be issued only for signs complying with all applicable provisions of this By-Law.

Any party seeking to erect a sign that does not meet dimensional or operational requirements of this By-Law may seek a waiver of the requirements of this By-Law from the Planning Board. The Planning Board may provide such a waiver if it finds that such a waiver will not adversely impact the health and safety of nearby persons or property and that granting the waiver is materially consistent with the purposes of this By-Law. In granting such a waiver, the Planning Board shall specify the size, type, and location of the sign(s) and impose such other terms and conditions as deemed necessary to promote the purposes of this By-Law.

5.2.3 General Requirements

- a) Movement. No sign shall contain any visible movable or moving parts (except for the hands of a traditional analog type, i.e., non-digital clock whose face does not exceed 36 inches in diameter), any moving, flashing, or animated lights, or any automatically changing written or pictorial matter or message.
- b) Illumination. No sign shall be illuminated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless the premises on which it is located are <u>legally</u> open for business. Signs may be illuminated only by the following means:
 - 1. By a white, steady stationary light shielded and directed solely at the sign;
 - 2. By interior non-exposed lights;
 - 3. By exposed neon or similar tube illumination.
- c) Window Signs. Window signs shall be permitted, provided that the aggregate area of such signs does not exceed 20% of the area of the window glass. Removable signs temporarily affixed to the window or associated with a window display are permitted, provided that the aggregate area of the window covered by the signs, including permanent signs, does not exceed 50%.

- c) Temporary Signs. Temporary signs must comply with the requirements for permanent signs, except for temporary non-commercial signs allowed in all districts without a permit from the Building Inspector. except signs for charitable and public safety purposes, which may be authorized by the Building Inspector despite noncompliance. Before a temporary sign (other than a temporary sign placed in a window) shall be erected, there shall be deposited with the Town Treasurer the sum of \$20.00 for each sign, and the Town Treasurer shall notify the Building Inspector. The deposit shall be refunded only upon the removal of the sign.
- d) Removability. No sign shall be painted or posted on the surface of any wall without an intermediary removable surface.
- e) Non-accessory Signs. The erection of non-accessory signs is not permitted.
- e) Sign Location. Signs attached to a roof and v-shaped signs attached to buildings are not permitted. Signs attached to a building must be either flat against the wall or perpendicular to the wall. If attached flat against the wall, the sign shall not project more than 12 inches outward or six inches upward from the wall or parapet of the building. If perpendicular to the building, the sign may not project more than five feet from the building, three feet over a public sidewalk, and shall be no less than two feet from the curb line.

The minimum vertical clearance to the underside of any sign projecting over a sidewalk or other pedestrian or vehicular passage shall be 10 feet above the surface of the sidewalk or passage.

5.2.4 Prohibited Signs.

The following sign types shall not be permitted, constructed, erected, or maintained:

- a) Any sign that advertises or calls attention to any commercial activity, business, product, or service that is no longer not produced, sold, carried, or conducted on the premises upon which the sign is located. No such sign shall remain in place or on vacated premises for more than 90 days from the date the vacancy commenced or commercial activity or service ceased, unless otherwise permitted by this By-Law;
- b) String lights used in connection with commercial premises with the exception of temporary lighting for holiday decoration;
- c) Signs erected so as to obstruct any door, window or fire escape on a building;
- d) Signs which incorporate in any manner flashing, moving or intermittent lighting, excluding public service signs showing time and temperature; and,
- e) Signs illuminated by other than a white, steady stationary light.
- 5.2.5 District Regulations
- a) All Districts. In all zoning districts, the following are permitted:
 - 1. Non-Commercial Signs. Non-commercial signs, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Standing signs accessory to a non-commercial building are permitted in all districts, provided that no more than church, synagogue, school, or other permitted nonresidential institution. T two such signs are permitted for each such building use, plus one additional sign for each additional street where the lot fronts on more than one street, each such sign not to exceed 18 square feet in area;
- b. No such sign shall be affixed to a tree or utility pole or otherwise erected in a public way except pursuant to Section 5.2.5 a) 1. c. below;
- c. Non-commercial signs may be erected in the Town's right of way adjacent to a private property by the property owner only if (a) there is no protrusion of the sign into the public walkway or roadway; (b) placement of the sign will not damage any plantings that are in the area; and (c) placement does not pose a hazard to passersby;
- d. <u>Non-commercial signs may be erected on other Town property only pursuant to such other administrative policy governing the placement of signs on Town property duly enacted by the Board of Selectmen;</u>
- e. The non-commercial sign complies with Section 5.2.3 and the applicable dimensional requirements for commercial signs in the same district;
- f. Any such non-commercial sign must be no larger than the largest commercial sign permitted in the district in which it is located;
- g. The number of non-commercial signs permitted on one property shall be no more than the number of commercial signs permitted on the property pursuant to this By-Law; however, non-commercial signs shall not count toward the allowable square footage or allowable number of signs on a parcel of land;
- h. Non-commercial sandwich board signs are permitted, provided that they comply with the dimensional standards in Section 5.2.5 b) 7 a. through 7 e.; and
- i. <u>Non-commercial temporary signs may be in place for longer than 90 days, notwithstanding the definition of temporary signs.</u>
- 2. One sign displaying the street number and/or name of the occupant of the premises not exceeding 150 square inches in area. Such sign may include identification of a home occupation only if authorized on Special Permit from the Board of Appeals.
- 3. Temporary signs pertaining to the lease, sale, <u>renovation</u>, <u>or maintenance of</u>, or initial occupancy of a lot or building, provided that the aggregate area of all such signs on the premises does not exceed nine square feet. <u>Notwithstanding the definition of temporary signs</u>, the following shall apply:
 - a. temporary signs pertaining to the lease or sale of a lot or building shall be removed within 10 days of the effective date of the lease or sale; and,
 - b. temporary signs pertaining to the renovation or maintenance of a lot or building shall be removed within 90 days of the sign being installed or when the renovation or maintenance is finished, whichever is less.

- 3. One bulletin or announcement board, identification sign, or entrance marker for each public entrance to the premises of a church, synagogue, school, or other permitted nonresidential institutions.
- 4. Standing signs accessory to a non-commercial building are allowed in all districts, provided that no more than church, synagogue, school, or other permitted nonresidential institution. T two such signs are permitted for each such building use, plus one additional sign for each additional street where the lot fronts on more than one street, each such sign not to exceed 18 square feet in area.
- 4. Signs at Town boundaries and within a street right-of-way, if authorized on Special Permit by the Board of Selectmen, not exceeding five square feet in sign area indicating the meetings of any Town civic organization.
- b) Business Districts. In an area zoned as a Local Business or General Business District, the following are permitted in addition to signs permitted under Section 5.2.5 a).
 - 1. Attached Signs. One sign for each exterior wall of an establishment if such wall faces a public way, private way, or contains a public entrance.
 - > Wall Mounted The area of the sign may not exceed the lesser of 10% of the wall area of such establishment or 65 square feet.
 - Projecting The area of the sign may not exceed 12 square feet if projecting perpendicular to the wall.
 - More than one sign The Planning Board may grant a Special Permit authorizing more than one identifying sign on an exterior wall provided that the aggregate area of such signs does not exceed the limits set forth herein.
 - 2. Directories. One directory of the establishments occupying a building or identification of the principal such establishment at each public entrance to the building. Such directory shall not exceed 1.5 square feet in area for each establishment occupying the building.
 - 3. Standing Signs. The Planning Board may grant a Special Permit for the erection of a standing sign if it finds that the sign complies with the purposes of this By-Law and the following dimensional requirements:
 - → In the LB I and LB III Districts the sign shall not exceed 15 square feet in area nor shall it exceed 5 feet in height above the ground.
 - ➤ In the LB II and GB Districts the sign shall not exceed 30 square feet in area nor shall it exceed 15 feet in height above the ground.
 - 3. Standing Signs. The Planning Board may grant a Special Permit for the erection of a standing sign. A Special Permit may be granted if the Board finds that the sign complies with the requirements and purposes of this By-Law. The Special Permit shall specify the size, type, and location of the sign and impose such other terms and conditions as deemed necessary to promote the purposes of this By-Law. The size of the sign shall not exceed 15 square feet in area nor shall it exceed 5 feet in height above the ground. The Special Permit may require the sign to be renewed, provided that such requirement renewal period does not

- exceed five years. A special permit shall not be required for the erection of a non-commercial standing sign.
- 4. Awnings. A metal or cloth awning, whether containing advertising signage or not, may be located 7.5 feet or higher from the ground and may project over the sidewalk, more than three feet but in no event closer than two feet to the curb line, notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary.
 - a. Valance A valance shall consist of the vertical surface of the awning that hangs perpendicular to the ground.
 - i. The maximum height of the valance shall be 18 inches or less.
 - ii. The maximum letter or symbol height on the valance shall be 14 inches or less, with a margin around the edge of the valance of 2 inches or greater.
 - 1. <u>If lettering and/or symbols are placed on the valance they shall only depict the company name and/or the property's address.</u>
 - 2. Logos shall not be permitted on the valance.
 - iii. The aggregate area of letter and/or symbols shall not exceed 60% of the area of the valance.
 - b. Slope The slope of the awning shall consist of the angled surface of the awning that connects to the façade of the building and to the valance, whose height shall not exceed 50% of the height of the window or door that it hangs above. Where an awning hangs above a window and a door, the height of the awning shall not exceed the height of the window that it hangs above.
 - i. <u>If a wall sign either exists or is also proposed, no signage shall be permitted on the slope.</u>
 - ii. <u>If lettering and/or symbols are placed on the valance, then signage located on the slope shall be restricted to one logo.</u>
 - iii. Signage on the slope shall not exceed 25% of the area of the slope, and shall have a margin around the edge of the slope of 2 inches or greater.
 - c. Sides Signage shall not be placed on the vertical surfaces of the awning that connects the façade of the building to the slope and to the valance.
- 5. Marquee. A metal or cloth, roof-like projection extending from the façade of a building with a vertical surface or "face" greater than 18 inches in height, whether containing signage or not, the Marquee may be located 7.5 feet or higher from the ground and may project over the sidewalk more than three feet but in no event closer than two feet to the curb line, notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary.
 - a. The height of a marquee shall not exceed more than 30% of the height of the window or door that it hangs above. Where a marquee hangs above a window and a door, the

- height of the marguee shall not exceed 30% of the height of the window that it hangs above.
- b. <u>If a wall sign either exists or is also proposed, neither a marquee structure nor sign shall</u> be permitted.
- c. A marquee shall be permitted in lieu of a wall sign, and signage on the marquee-shall be subject to the following provisions:
 - i. The signage shall be located on the face (the vertical surface of the marquee that hangs perpendicular to the ground). Signage shall not be permitted on the roof (the top of the marquee, whether sloped, angled, or flat), nor on the sides (the vertical surfaces of the marquee that connect the façade of the building, the roof, and the face),
 - ii. The signage area may not exceed the lesser of 10% of the wall area of such establishment, 65 square feet, or 50% of the area of the face, and shall have a margin around the edge of the face of 2 inches or greater.
- 6. Window Signs. Window signs (permanent and/or temporary) shall be permitted, provided that the aggregate area of such signs does not exceed 20% of the area of the window glass.
- 7. Commercial Sandwich Board Signs. One "A" frame Sandwich Board sign per business or building shall be permitted (including within the public right-of-way, sidewalk only, except in conditions of snow and/or ice), subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The sign shall only be displayed, adjacent to the buildings only, and not along the curb;
 - b. <u>If placed on public property, the sign may not be placed without the prior written permission from the Board of Selectmen in accordance with the Town's General Bylaws, Section 60-800 D, Public ways, sidewalks and rights-of-way;</u>
 - c. The sign shall not exceed 24 inches in width and 48 inches in height, including supports and sign area;
 - d. The sign shall not protrude on the sidewalk in such a way as to obstruct pedestrian traffic or reduce the open sidewalk width to less than four feet;
 - e. The sign shall be free of sharp corners, protrusions and devices that could inadvertently cause injury;
 - f. Liability insurance coverage shall be carried, and evidence of same may be requested by the Building Inspector. Said insurance must cover personal injuries or property damage that may occur in such areas. Such liability insurance insured on the liability insurance policy in the amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per claim and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence for any and all claims which may arise, for any reason, as a result of the placement of such a sign. The business shall also require the insurer to give at least thirty (30) days written notice of termination, reduction or cancellation of the policies to the Town; and,

g. Commercial sandwich board signs shall only be displayed during business hours and shall be removed thereafter.

5.2.6 Maintenance

- a) Every sign permitted hereunder shall be maintained in good condition. If a sign shows corrosion or deteriorated paint over 25% of the area of one side or if damage to a sign causes the loss of 10% of its surface or if a sign suffers damage or deterioration which creates a risk of harm to the person or property of another, it shall be repaired or removed.
- b) The Building Inspector may order the repair of a sign that is not secure, safe or in good state of repair by written notice to the owner. If the defect in the sign is not corrected within 30 days of said written notice, the Building Inspector may order the removal of the sign.

5.2.7 Nonconforming Signs

Signs made nonconforming as a result of change of use on the premises shall be made to conform or be removed within 60 days of becoming nonconforming. Signs made nonconforming as a result of a change to this By-Law change shall be subject to the requirements of Section 1.5, Non-Conforming Uses and Structures. that are subsequently enlarged, redesigned, replaced, or altered in any way including repainting in a different color, shall comply immediately with all provisions of this By-Law and provided further that any such sign which has deteriorated to such an extent that the cost of restoration would exceed 35% of the replacement value of the sign at the time of replacement shall not be repaired or rebuilt or altered except to conform to the requirements of this By-Law.

Submitted by the Planning Board

The Board of Selectmen and Planning Board will report on this Article.

Two-thirds vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 6:

ZONING AMENDMENT: MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT TEMPORARY MORATORIUM

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by inserting a new Section 9.0, 'Marijuana Establishment Temporary Moratorium', at the end of the Zoning By-Laws, as follows:

Section 9 Marijuana Establishment Temporary Moratorium

9.1 Definition

"Marijuana establishment" shall mean "a marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business," as defined in G.L. c. 94G, § 1, but shall not include facilities engaged in the sale, distribution or cultivation of marijuana for medical purposes licensed under Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2012."

9.2 Purpose

By vote at the State election on November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law entitled the Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (the "Act"), regulating the control and production and distribution of marijuana under a system of licenses and regulations. Currently under the Zoning By-Law, a Marijuana Retailer or Establishment is not a permitted use in the Town and any regulations promulgated by the Cannabis Control Commission are expected to provide guidance to the Town in regulating marijuana sales and distribution. The regulation of marijuana raises novel and complex legal, planning, and public safety issues and the Town needs time to study and consider the regulation of Marijuana Retail or Distribution centers and address such novel and complex issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning By-Law regarding regulation of Marijuana Retail sales and distribution and other uses related to the regulation of marijuana. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Marijuana Retail and Distribution so as to allow the Town sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to enact bylaws in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives.

9.3 Temporary Moratorium

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for "Marijuana Establishments". The moratorium shall be in effect through July 1, 2018. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of marijuana in the Town, consider the Cannabis Control Commission regulations regarding "Marijuana Establishments" and related uses, and shall consider adopting new Zoning By-Laws to address the impact and operation of Marijuana Establishments and related uses.

Submitted by the Planning Board

The Board of Selectmen and Planning Board will report on this Article.

Two-thirds vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 7:

FY18 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE BUDGET & PROJECTS

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the FY2018 Community Preservation budget and, pursuant to the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee, to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund, or to reserve amounts in the Community Preservation Fund for future appropriations, for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for FY2018; for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space - including land for recreational use; for the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources; and for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; or in any way act thereon.

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Amount	Project Name	Category	Funding Source
\$ 336,000	Grove Street Tennis Courts	Open Space/ Recreation	Open Space/ Recreation Account/Unallocated Account
\$ 173,200	Assessment and Project Redevelopment of Sherman Gardens	Community Housing	Community Housing
\$ 24,125	Belmont Headquarters Sons of Italy – Historical Artifacts Preservation	Historic Preservation	Historic Preservation Account
\$ 35,000	Grove Street Park Intergenerational Walking Path Construction Site Plan	Open Space/ Recreation	Open Space/ Recreation Account/Unallocated Account
\$ 615,000	PQ Playground Revitalization Project Phase 2	Open Space/ Recreation	Open Space/ Recreation Account/Unallocated Account
\$130,500	Allocation of not less than 10 percent of annual revenues in the Community Preservation Fund for Historic Preservation Account	Community Housing	Community Housing
\$55,000	Appropriations for administrative and operating expenses not more than 5 percent of annual revenues in the Community Preservation Fund	Administration	Administrative Expenses

This article is a standard article that appropriates funds to support the operations of the Town's Community Preservation Committee and its approved projects. The Community Preservation Fund receives revenues from a 1.5% property tax surcharge to fund the program. The state provides limited matching grant funds to the Town based on the surcharge collections.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

The Board of Selectmen, Community Preservation Committee, Warrant Committee, and Capital Budget Committee will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 8:

CITIZENS' PETITION: AMEND GENERAL BYLAWS, SECTION 40-200A TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN FROM THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS

"To see if the Town will vote to increase the membership of the Board of Selectmen from three to five members by amending Chapter 40, Article 2, Section 40-200-A of the Town Bylaws to provide as follows:

A. The Board of Selectmen shall consist of five members elected by Ballot at the Annual Town Election for a term of three years. The terms of the members shall be staggered such that no more than two members are elected to a full term each year.

Said increase in membership shall take effect at the 2018 Annual Town Election by the election of two members for terms of three years, and one member for a term of two years, as provided in MGL Chapter 41, section 2."

Submitted by James R. Williams, Selectman

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 9:

CITIZENS' PETITION: PETITION TO ALLOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO CONSIDER WASTE METERING APPROACHES TO SAVE MONEY AND REDUCE TRASH.

This non-binding resolution will empower the Board of Selectmen to consider all options for waste management in the town, including waste metering such as pay-as-you-throw systems, as part of their ongoing role of financial managers of the town. By acknowledging that needs and goals have changed since the 1990 override for waste expenses, the Board will be better equipped to align the town's policies for waste with the current financial challenges and environmental goals, (such as Climate Action Plan, passed by town meeting in September, 2009)

This article is submitted in the exact form as provided by the Citizens.

Submitted by Kim Slack

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 10:

CITIZENS' PETITION: WELCOMING TOWN DESIGNATION

To see if the Town will hear and vote on a resolution "Welcoming Town Designation."

WELCOMING TOWN DESIGNATION

Whereas,	Historically Belmont has welcomed immigrants from many regions around the world, including the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America; and
Whereas.	Immigrants have enriched the fabric of this community, adding new life and great potential to

Belmont; and

Whereas, We are one community and we stand by our residents without regard to race, creed, sex,

nationality, legal status, religion, gender identity, age, ability, or sexual orientation; and Whereas, National policies that discriminate against immigrants because of religion or country of origin

Whereas, National policies that discriminate against immigrants because of religion or country of original run counter to our values; and

Whereas, In some communities, local law enforcement agencies are used to collect and deliver immigration status data to Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE"); and

Whereus, ICE may issue voluntary information or detainer requests that could subject individuals who are in local custody to prolonged detention; and

Whereas,

It has been demonstrated in other communities that when local law enforcement officials indiscriminately comply with all ICE civil immigration information and detainer requests, including those that target non-criminal undocumented residents, public trust is croded, immigrants are less likely to cooperate with local law enforcement and are less likely to report serious crimes, thus making the work of local law enforcement more difficult to address serious crimes; and

Whereas.

The Belmont Police Department will continue its long-held policy of not asking any individual about immigration status when that individual is seeking help from the police or is stopped for a minor infraction, and will provide assistance and protection to any member of the public without regard to immigration status; and

The Belmont Police do not respond to ICE requests for information unless a criminal warrant has been issued, or unless an individual is suspected of a serious crime other than an offense for which an essential element was the individual's immigration status;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Whereas

1) The Belmont Town Meeting hereby expresses our solidarity with displaced persons and migrants from around the world.

2) The Belmont Town Meeting affirms its support for the Belmont Police Department policy of: (a) not honoring ICE detailers without a court order or a probable cause warrant signed by a magistrate or judge; (b) not detaining a person solely on the belief that the person has committed a civil immigration violation.

Submitted by Anne Barrington Mahon

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 11:

SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of each and all the elected officers of the Town, appropriate a sum of money for that purpose, determine how the same shall be raised, or in any way act thereon.

Elected Officials of the Town	Salary	
Town Moderator	\$450	
Chair of the Board of Selectmen	\$5,000	
Selectmen (2)	\$4,500	(each)
Town Clerk	\$95,235	
Town Treasurer	\$101,433	
Chair of the Board of Assessors	\$3,030	
Assessors (2)	\$2,200	(each)

This is a standard article to comply with the provision in M.G.L. c. 41, § 108 requiring the compensation levels of all elected officers to be fixed at the annual town meeting, and to appropriate the funds necessary for FY18. Please note that Town Meeting establishes and appropriates the compensation of other municipal employees under Article 13.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 12: ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR WATER AND SEWER AND STORMWATER SERVICES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the accounts classified as an "Enterprise Fund", pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F½ of the General Laws for water service, and for sewer and stormwater service; or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article to appropriate funds to support the operations of the Town's water and sewer functions from enterprise funds that receive revenues from user fees. Enterprise funds are entirely self-supporting from user fees and do not receive any funding from property taxes.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds if borrowing).

ARTICLE 13:

FY18 BUDGET APPROPRIATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER BALANCES TO FUND THE FY18 BUDGET

To determine what sums of money shall be granted to pay Town expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and to make the necessary appropriations for the same for the support of schools and for other Town purposes; to determine how the same shall be raised, and to see if the Town will authorize

the transfer of certain balances on the Treasurer's books and Accountant's books, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article that appropriates the Town's FY18 budget, commencing on July 1. The budget consists of several categories of expenditures; each such category, and the transfer of balances from various sources necessary to fund the General Fund Budget, will be presented for a separate vote of Town Meeting. Due to uncertainty regarding the amount of state aid, the budget will be heard at the June sessions of Town Meeting. The Warrant Committee Report contains the budget summary and supporting information and will be distributed to Town Meeting Members in advance of the June sessions.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article. **Majority vote required for passage.**

ARTICLE 14:

AUTHORIZATION FOR UP-FRONT FUNDS FOR CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury, sums of money for the repair, improvement and construction of highways, said money to be used in conjunction with any money which may be allotted by the Commonwealth for the said purposes, authorize the acceptance of such allotment, determine how the money raised and allotted as aforesaid shall be expended under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, and acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article that seeks to appropriate "up-front" funds that will be reimbursed from state highway aid, referred to as Chapter 90. This aid is authorized by the Legislature through state transportation bond issues. The estimated apportionment will be reported prior to the June sessions of Town Meeting. These funds, when supplemented with capital budget funds, will be used for the Town's Pavement Management Program to extend the life of our roadway system. In addition, the Town has used Chapter 90 funds to "leverage" substantial state/federal funding to design major road projects (i.e., Trapelo Road).

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen, Warrant Committee, and Capital Budget Committee will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 15:

APPROPRIATION OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate sums of money to purchase public safety equipment, computer equipment (including consulting work), public works equipment and furnishings and equipment for Town facilities, construct public ways, and for building and facility and public works construction, major maintenance and alterations (including design work); to determine whether these appropriations shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article to appropriate funds for capital budget expenditures. While the article is general as to the categories of capital expenditures, the motion will be explicit. The recommendations of the

Capital Budget Committee for FY18 capital expenditures will be distributed to Town Meeting Members prior to the June session of Town Meeting.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen, Warrant Committee, and Capital Budget Committee will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage (two-thirds if borrowing).

ARTICLE 16:

APPROPRIATION OF OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, a sum of money to the Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB") Stabilization Fund; and to determine whether the money shall be provided by the tax levy, by transfer from available funds, by transfer from the departmental Enterprise Funds, or by any combination of these methods; or in any way act thereon.

This article seeks to appropriate from available free cash or other available funds for future Town liabilities for Other Post-Employment Benefits.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

Two-thirds vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 17:

AUTHORIZATION FOR REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½, of the General Laws, to establish new revolving funds; to reauthorize revolving funds established under various previous votes of the Town by various Town Departments, to hear or receive a report concerning the receipts and expenditures of same or to amend the votes under any previously adopted revolving funds, to appropriate a sum of money to fund same, to determine how the money shall be raised or expended; or in any way act thereon.

This is a standard article that seeks authorization to establish new revolving funds, and to re-authorize existing revolving funds, for certain operations of the Town. These funds allow the expenditure of user fee, receipts for program expenses without further Town Meeting appropriation. However, Town Meeting must annually renew these funds. While this article is general, the motion will specifically include the funds and spending limits in each category.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 18: AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 13E, to establish a reserve fund to be utilized in the upcoming fiscal years, to pay, without further appropriation, for unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition or transportation, and to appropriate a sum of money to said reserve fund, or in any way act thereon.

This is a new provision under the Municipal Modernization Act giving the town the authority to establish a reserve fund to pay, without further appropriation, for unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education. By vote of School Committee or Superintendent, The balance in the reserve fund shall not exceed 2% of the annual net school spending.

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen/School Committee

The School Committee, Warrant Committee, Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 19:

AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE RETIREMENT BOARD STIPEND

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 20(6) of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, as amended by Section 34 of Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, so as to provide an increase to the stipend available to members of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board to not more than \$4,500 per year, or in any way act thereon.

This article is inserted in the warrant at the request of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board. By taking favorable action on this article, the town will accept a local option which increases the stipend available to be paid to members of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board from the current stipend amount of \$3,000, previously accepted by Town Meeting in 1997, to \$4,500 per year.

Submitted by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board

The School Committee, Warrant Committee, Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 20:

AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE COLA BASE BY RETIREMENT BOARD

To see if the Town will vote to approve the decision of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board pursuant to MGL Chapter 32 section 103(j) to increase the maximum Cost of Living Adjustment base to \$14,000, or in any way act thereon.

This article is inserted in the warrant at the request of the Belmont Retirement Board. By taking favorable action on this article, the Town will accept a local option which increases the base upon which cost of living increases may be granted to Town retirees from the first \$12,000, in effect since 1997, to the first \$14,000 of the retirement allowance. The Retirement Board's actuary estimates that the amortization of this new COLA provision.

Submitted by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board

The School Committee, Warrant Committee, Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

ARTICLE 21:

AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE MINIMUM ALLOWANCE PAYABLE TO SURVIVORS OF MEMBERS OF THE BELMONT RETIREMENT SYSTEM

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 12(2)(d) of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 32, as amended by Sections 29 and 30 of Chapter 176 of the Acts of 2011, *An Act Providing for Pension Reform and Benefit Modernization*, so as to provide an increase to the monthly minimum allowance payable to survivors of members of the Belmont Contributory Retirement System who die while actively employed, from \$250 to \$500, or in any way act thereon.

This article is inserted in the warrant at the request of the Belmont Retirement Board. Section 12(2)(d) benefits are paid to survivors of members who die while actively employed. Payment of the increased minimum monthly benefit to eligible recipients is prospective only. This would impact survivors and increase the cost of the system's average monthly retirement payroll by \$507.75.

Submitted by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board

The School Committee, Warrant Committee, Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 22:

AUTHORIZATION TO ADJUST SPOUSAL BENEFIT FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF RETIREES

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 32, section 101, third paragraph so as to provide an increase in the annual allowance payable to certain surviving spouses of accidental and ordinary disability retirees from \$6,000 to \$12,000, or in any way act thereon.

This article is inserted in the warrant at the request of the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board. An affirmative vote would increase the benefit to surviving spouses of disabled retirees who retired prior to 1997 and were precluded by law from selecting Option C, the joint and survivor option. There are 3 surviving spouses who would be impacted by acceptance of this local option.

Submitted by the Belmont Contributory Retirement Board

The School Committee, Warrant Committee, Board of Selectmen will report on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage

ARTICLE 23:

MUNICIPAL LIGHT SUBSTATION PROJECT BORROWING DE-AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unused borrowing authority in the amount of \$27,600,000 that was appropriated under Article 2 of the January 18, 2012 Special Town Meeting for the Municipal Light Department Substation Project; and appropriate NSTAR reimbursement to pay costs of the project financed by such bonds and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed by the same amount, or in any way act thereon.

This article rescinds the authority to borrow funds that were not needed for the Municipal Light Substation Project due to usage of NSTAR reimbursement to pay costs in place of bond proceeds. The total authorization was approved not to exceed \$60,000,000 in Article 2 of the January 18, 2012 Special Town Meeting.

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 24:

JOINT PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER PROJECT BORROWING DE-AUTHORIZATION AND REDUCTION OF THE APPROPRIATION

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unused borrowing authority in the amount of \$255,000 that was appropriated under Article 16 of the June 3, 2015 Annual Town Meeting for the Capital Expenditures for the purchase and installation of radio transmission equipment, Joint Public Safety Communications Center equipment and portable radios financed by such bonds and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed and appropriated by the same amount, or in any way act thereon.

This article rescinds the authority to borrow funds that were not needed for the Joint Public Safety Communications Center Project. The total authorization was approved in Article 16 (B) of the June 3, 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

The Warrant Committee and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 25:

REPLACEMENT FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AT BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL BORROWING DE-AUTHORIZATION AND REDUCTION OF THE APPROPRIATION

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unused borrowing authority in the amount of \$350 that was appropriated under Article 16 of the June 3, 2015 Annual Town Meeting for the Capital Expenditures for the design and purchase of equipment, materials and installation of a replacement fire alarm system at the Belmont High School financed by such bonds and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed and appropriated by the same amount, or in any way act thereon.

This article rescinds the authority to borrow funds that were not needed for the Replacement Fire Alarm System at Belmont High School. The total authorization was approved in Article 16 (C) of the June 3, 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

The Board of Selectmen, Warrant Committee, and Capital Budget Committee will report orally on this Article.

Majority vote required for passage.

ARTICLE 26:

CITIZENS' PETITION: GENERAL FUND STABILIZATION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds in the Treasury a sum of money to the General Stabilization Fund.

The purpose of this article is to transfer a portion of the Town's certified Free Cash balance into the General Stabilization Fund in order to ensure that existing Town revenues, including those that have resulted from the April 2015 Override, stretch as far into the future as possible, thus delaying and/or limiting the need for a future

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operating override. By transferring these monies into the General Stabilization Fund, this article will provide Town Meeting with the opportunity to evaluate and vote on any proposed appropriation."

This article is submitted in the exact form as provided by the Citizens.

Submitted by Robert L. Sarno

The Board of Selectmen and Warrant Committee will report on this Article.

A True Copy, Attest Ellen O'Brien Achma

Town Clerk of Belmont, MA



Given under our hands this 3rd day of April, 2017.

BELMONT, BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Mark A. Paolillo, Chair

Sami S Baghdady Vice/Cha

James R. Williams